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2000 FORD EXPEDITION XLT - 3rd seat - rear air - p w - tilt - cruise



2001 CHEV EX CAB - 4 X 2 AT-8 - only 19K miles - like new



2002 2500 CHEV 2500HD - crew cab - AT-8 4X2 - must see



2002 VW BEETLE - AT - leather - sunroof - only 14,000 miles



2002 MUSTANG - pw & l, tile, cruise, low mileage



1998 NISSAN - reg cab - AT-4



1999 FORD EXPLORER XLS - p w & locks - tilt-cruise - AM/FMCD player



2001 CHEV PICK UP LS - reg cab - 4X2 - sharp - one owner - AT-8



2000 CHEV. MALIBU LS - local trade - leather - sun roof - loaded



2001 FORD 4 X 2 - super crew - leather - loaded - one owner



1999 FORD EXPLORER XLS - P W & L - tilt - cruise, AM-FM CD player



1990 FORD BRONCO - Eddie Bauer - hunter special



2000 LINCOLN TOWN CAR - Signature Series - one owner - like new - MUST SEE



2000 F-250 SUPERCAB XLT 2w drive - v-10 automatic - local trade

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The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 33

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 30, 2003

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

During Coffee County Commission meeting

Resident calls for full-time commissioners

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission meeting Monday, Jan. 27, was relatively short; however, those in attendance got quite a show as one county resident's remarks stirred some difference of opinions among the commissioners.

John B. Farris addressed the commission Monday morning and quickly let it be known that he believes the county should be represented by three full-time commissioners instead of seven part-time ones.

Farris lives in the district represented by Commissioner Bernest Brooks, and he said the county needs commissioners who can be reached everyday by the residents. Instead, he said he feels as though the burden of dealing with county problems is left up to county engineer Randy Tindell, who is in the office everyday.

As Farris addressed the commission, Brooks asked him if he

had ever tried to call him concerning issues. Farris said he had not because he felt as though he would not get him. To this, Brooks invited Farris to try and call him next time.

"I might surprise you," Brooks said.

Farris also questioned how the districts are divided within the county, and Brooks explained the division was necessary following the ruling of the lawsuit Dillard vs. Crenshaw in which the justice department said minorities had the right to have districts split in a fashion to allow the minority to have a 65 percent majority in one district.

Brooks said the population of blacks in Coffee County called for a division of the districts to allow a minority district on the board.

As Farris concluded his remarks, Commissioner Tom Grimsley said he agreed wholeheartedly with Farris concerning the full-time commissioners.

"I think we need three full-time commissioners and a full-time elected chairman," Grimsley said.

His remarks were echoed by Commissioner Doug Dalrymple who said he too feels the county would be better served by three full-time commissioners.

Before the meeting concluded, it became evident that Brooks had taken offense to the morning's remarks as he insinuated another commissioner may have had something to do with Farris' address.

"For a commissioner to sit up here and prompt someone to come here and do this, I think this is unprofessional," he said.

On a positive note, Commission Chairman Robert Stephens discussed a few good things involving the county.

"We're in good financial shape," he said.

Stephens commended the

Please See CCC, Page 3

Elba COC looking to make move in near future

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Elba Chamber of Commerce/Elba Economic and Development office knows a little bit about moving around, and the dual office will soon have a place of its own to call "home."

With the rehabilitation project of the levee underway, the state recently acquired several homes that were located too close to the levee and marked for removal. One such home, acquired by the state, was given to the City of Elba with the understanding it would be moved from that location. According to Kaye Whitworth, executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce/Elba Economic and Development office, that is when the idea to create a permanent home for the dual office was born.

"Mayor James Grimes thought this home would be a wonderful site for the chamber and economic development office," she said. "Our project began at that point."

Of course, the first question to be answered was where to move the home, and Whitworth said the most obvious place was an area of the city in which plans were already underway to

begin some redevelopment.

The downtown area along Putnam Street where the old Coffee County Jail is located has been marked for redevelopment for quite some time, and Whitworth said the work is finally coming together to get these things done.

The future chamber/economic development home was moved to one side of the jail with the old Jim Folsom home being moved on the other side, and plans are to create a "remember when" atmosphere in this area of town as each of the three sites is set to be restored.

"We are going to restore the chamber/economic development home as antique looking as possible," Whitworth said. "We certainly feel it will be an asset to our office to be located in this section of town especially with the Folsom home and jail projects ongoing."

She said the idea with the Folsom home is to create a museum out of the former governor's birth place by restoring the inside and outside of the home and developing an heirloom garden with fencing around it. As for the jail, she said the project is still underway and this too will one day

be a site for visitors to come and see and learn a bit about Coffee County's history.

"Some day, some way, somehow, we are going to complete the jail project," Whitworth said.

For now, the focus is the completion of the chamber/economic development home in which Whitworth said most of the work so far has been done by the city. However, she said the chamber/economic development office is going to need to come up with some funding to complete the project, and the dual office is looking for some volunteer work of local organizations also to keep the cost of renovation down.

"We will gladly accept any antique donations from local citizens to spruce up the home," she said. "And, we would love to have the help of local garden clubs, etc. with the landscaping around the home."

At this point, the brick work around the house has been completed, and Whitworth said the next project will be to install white siding on the house accented with black shutters. As for the inside of the home, she said she and assistant chamber director Lisa Hanchey will each have an office. There will also be a large conference room and kitchen area inside the home.

"I feel as if this home will not only benefit the chamber and economic development offices, but it will be a building to benefit the whole community," Whitworth said. "With the large conference room and kitchen area, this building could be an ideal spot to host business and social events."

At this point, Whitworth said the plans are to complete the renovations by late Spring or early Summer; however, she said that is not a definite time frame. Any person or group interested in volunteering to help with the renovations or to donate an antique for the office, please contact the Elba Chamber of Commerce at 897-3125.



Elba Chamber of Commerce executive director Kaye Whitworth and assistant director Lisa Hanchey discuss plans for the house which will one day soon become the permanent location for the chamber office. Renovation work already has begun on this home, and the ladies each said they are excited to see the final outcome of the project. No timeline has been set for the renovation to be complete, but the desire is to finish as soon as possible.

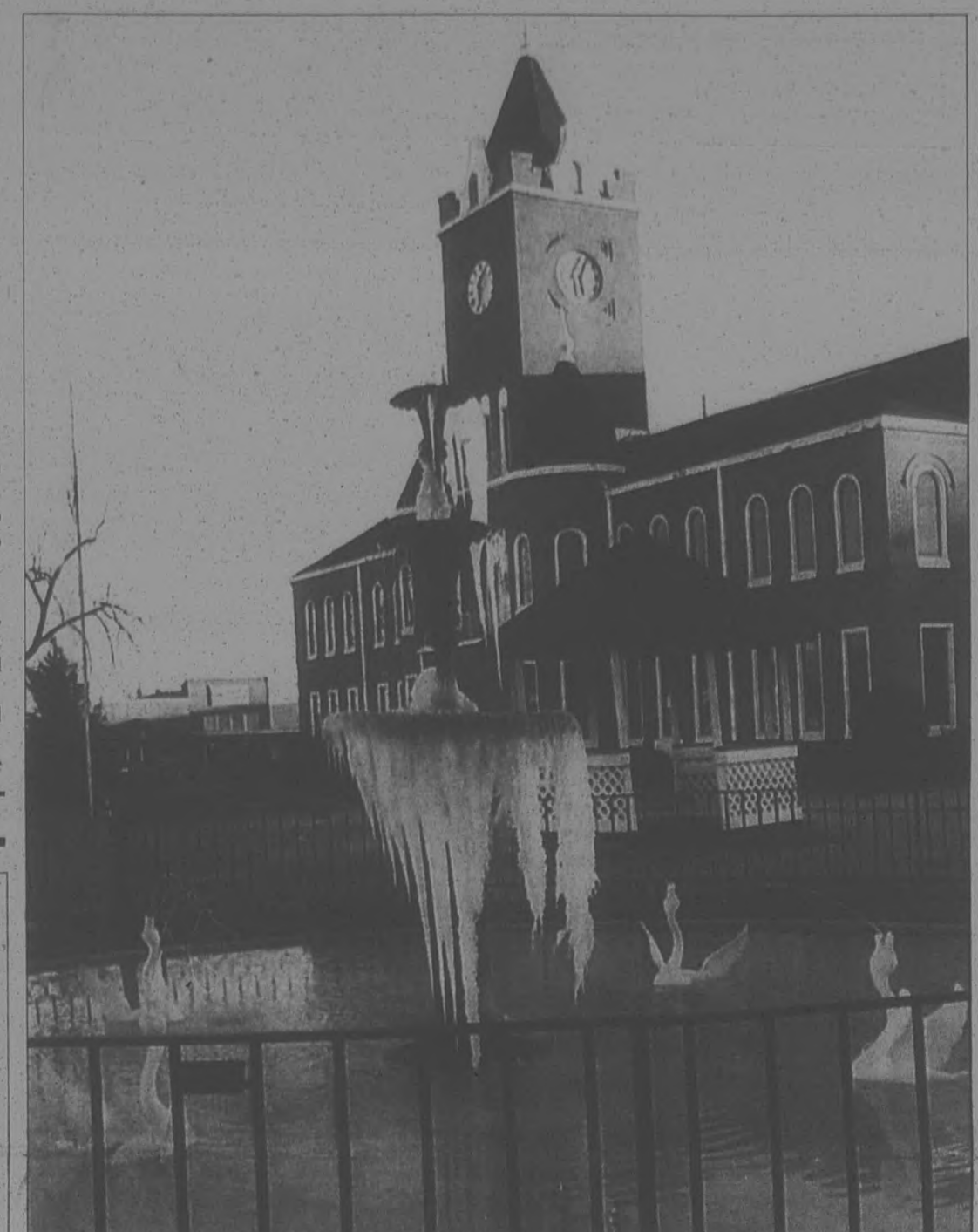
Area Happenings

THE NEW BROCKTON TOWN COUNCIL will hold its regular monthly meeting, Monday, Feb. 3, at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at New Brockton Town Hall. The water board will hold its meeting ahead of the council at 5:30 p.m. at the same location.

COFFEE COUNTY LAKE will open for the season on SATURDAY, FEB. 8.

NOTICE

Revenue Commissioner Ronnie Burns reminds Coffee County property owners that the deadline to pay property taxes without a penalty is Friday, Jan. 31 (TOMORROW).



ARCTIC BLAST FREEZES COFFEE COUNTY...Residents of Elba and Coffee County joined many others across the southeast portion of the United States late last week in trying to stay warm as the area weathered extremely cold temperatures from an Arctic blast. Area residents were awakened to the coldest temperatures from the blast Friday morning, Jan. 24, as thermometers registered in the low teens. Although the unseasonably cold temperatures made it hard to stay warm, it did allow for the creation of some beautiful ice sculptures. The fountain in the courtyard at the Coffee County Courthouse in Elba was no exception as the water flowing through the well froze to create a fountain of hanging icicles. The above picture was taken at approximately 7 a.m. last Friday morning as the clock outside The Peoples Bank in Elba registered the temperature at 15 degrees, and although last week's weather conditions reminded area residents that it does indeed get cold in the south occasionally, temperatures have slowly been returning to the norm this week.

Elba's Workman's Comp insurance increases drastically

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

A short, routine meeting of the Elba City Council Monday evening resulted in council members getting one bit of unpleasant news.

Workman's Comp insurance for the city showed an 88 percent increase. A similar increase will hit the Elba Water and Electric Department, Mayor James Grimes told council members. The city's cost will rise from \$41,055 in 2002 to \$77,350 in 2003.

Grimes reminded council members that Elba is insured with a group put together several years ago within the Alabama League of Municipalities.

Efforts to find an alternate insurer failed, according to the mayor.

City employees experienced an unusually high claims year during 2002, which is the cause of the big increase. There were three claims of over \$30,000 according to City Clerk Wayne Grantham. This experience rate will reflect on the City's expense record for three years.

Permanent injury expenses continue to impact the experience rate used by the insurance companies to determine annual rates. Council members accepted the increase as something they had to have and vowed to launch and maintain an intense safety campaign to prevent

injuries and thus expensive Workman's Comp expenses.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth reported to the council that the new computers have been installed, but complete networking is still underway. He received permission from the council to get prices on the new software needed to record and integrate all departmental records.

Grimes reported that the Federal Emergency Management Agency has completed its audit of the flood buy-out program. The city is expecting a written report on the find-

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TOPS IN NATION...The Coffee County 4-H Meats Judging Team placed 1st at the National contest held in Denver, Colo. on January 11th. Shown from left are Stan Windham, County Agent; Carrie Edwards, Enterprise; John Sawyer, New Brockton; Heather Carroll, New Brockton; Ann Schieffer, New Brockton; and Tom Benner, Auburn University. The top five teams at the contest were Alabama, Wisconsin, Indiana, Colorado, and Minnesota. Ranking individually, overall winners were Carrie Edwards first place, Heather Carroll second place, and Ann Schieffer third place.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
with Ferrin Cox

There was a positive nimmer from state and City of Elba officials last week as the U. S. Senate finally passed their massive appropriations bill. The Senate has a whole bunch of Alabama goodies in its version bill that passed last week. Now fingers are crossed while the Senate and House work out a compromise between differing portions of their respective versions of the long overdue appropriation bills. Of particular interest to Elba officials is the \$750,000 earmarked for the local diagnostic lab. While there is a state bond issue to pay the \$1 million for the new building, equipment to dispose of diseased animal remains was badly needed. The state-of-the-art digester which will be purchased with this federal funding and installed in its own special room at the lab will eat up all the bad germs, etc. and render whatever is left safe and completely harmless. There has been a lot of time and work put into this project by a surprising number of people. We are now out to see their efforts pay off when this new building is built and all the necessary equipment is available to allow the professionals to "do their thing."

February 2nd is Groundhog Day. The well known weather prognosticator is expected to give his learned opinion on six more weeks of cold weather or not. It is done simply by determining if he spies his pudgy image (i.e. if the sun is shining) then we are in for some more cold weather. But then if the ol' groundhog is still hibernating on February 2nd, we are supposed to be in for some warm weather sooner rather than later.

Everett says conclusion of more revenue under peanut program underscores value of bill's reforms

A study released last month by a peanut industry research group concluding that the new peanut program will generate more revenue than the previous program underscores the value of the reforms that Congress undertook in the 2002 Farm Bill. Congressman Terry Everett, R-Rehobeth, said, "The new peanut program removed those threats, providing a more even playing field for our Southeast peanut industry." Congressman Everett observed that while the new farm bill is sound one for the peanut industry the transition to the new peanut program has not been an easy one for all growers this year.

"During the writing of the new Farm Bill and peanut program," Everett said, "it was our intent to devise a new payment

structure for peanut growers which protected their livelihoods while also compensating for the loss of quota. If we kept the old quota system, we faced the certainty of declining domestic production coupled with the undermining effects of cheaper foreign imports, not to mention continued political opposition in Washington. "The new peanut program removed those threats, providing a more even playing field for our Southeast peanut industry," Congressman Everett observed that while the new farm bill is sound one for the peanut industry the transition to the new peanut program has not been an easy one for all growers this year.

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of January 20, 2003, through January 26, 2003. They were: Joshua Burke, Miranda Hodge, Johnnie Cotter, Tiffany Campbell, Ray Sawyers, Mary Shiver, Patricia Clark, Lorene Cole, JaShawn Hammonds, Destiny Patterson, John Waters, Jimmie Belcher, David Hudson, Katie Johnson, Linda Helton, Ethel Johnson, Betty Burke, Steve Petty and Mary Crandell.

Persons discharged during the same time period were: Courtney Richardson, Jesse Young, Quinnie Whitman, Annie Boswell, Katherine Boothe, Kelly Johnson, Joshua Burke, Miranda Hodge, Lorene Cole, Tiffany Campbell, Mary Shiver, Ray Sawyers, JaShawn Hammonds, Johnnie Cotter, Patricia Clark, John Waters, Katie Stackhouse, David Hudson, Ethel Johnson, Steve Petty, Jimmie Belcher and Linda Helton.

NOTICE

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ZION CHAPEL SCOUT TROOP 491 include a Father and Daughter Formal Dance on Feb. 7 (for more information call 897-3930), and Girl Scout Cookie Sale beginning in February. To order cookies early call 897-3930/ 897-8406/ 897-3774.

BULLETIN BOARD

• SOCIAL SECURITY REP. Contributions: 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30, Call FREE 1-800-772-1213
• ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon - First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
• ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. - Tues. - 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
• ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. City Hall
• WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall
• GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - Every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church - enter on side on W. Davis St. Maggie Garrett Classroom
• COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton
• LYONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center
• ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thurs. - 5:30 p.m. - Supp. Office
• AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
• MASONIC LODGE 170 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month 7 p.m.
• BAND BOOSTERS - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School
• VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Fri. 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-3558
• COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House
• COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise
• ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 2nd Thursday at noon, Driscoll Hanger at the Airport
• AARP meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month
• ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB - 1st & 3rd Monday 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room
• NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Everett appointed chair of strategic forces subcommittee

U.S. Representative Terry Everett, R-Alabama, has been appointed chair of the newly-created House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces. As a result, Everett becomes the first Alabama in 15 years to chair a subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee.

"It is gratifying to be able to put my seniority to work for the people of Southeast Alabama and the nation," Congressman Everett said after learning of his appointment.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, headed Monday, Jan. 20, 2003, investigated the following incidents: three for theft of property, one shooting into an occupied vehicle, two for criminal mischief, three for domestic violence, one harassing communications, two for possession of marijuana, three for possession of drug paraphernalia, two for possession of a controlled substance, one driving under the influence and one burglary.

The following arrests were made: two arrests on warrants, two for domestic violence, one for stalking, one for failure to appear, one for criminal mischief, one for driving under the influence, one for resisting arrest, one for possession of drug paraphernalia and one for possession of a controlled substance.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: three for speeding, one for violation of the seat belt law, one for driving with a revoked driver's license, one for driving with a headlight out, one for attempting to elude and one for a switched tag.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:
MONDAY, JANUARY 20 - Prowler reported at 1123 Farris Ave. (1:48 p.m.); River stage - 6:55 feet (7:16 a.m.); 3-vehicle wreck reported at the intersection of Adkison and Simmons Sts. (12:12 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the wreck at Adkison/Simmons St. intersection (1:12 p.m.); Loud music reported on Caroline St. (8:43 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21 - River stage - 6:53 feet (7:09 a.m.); Disturbance reported at 630 Smith Ave. (8:34 a.m.); 1-vehicle wreck reported above Taylor Mill Oaks (12:49 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the wreck above Taylor Mill Oaks (12:49 p.m.); Loud music reported on Washington Ave. (12:40 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 - River stage - 6:54 feet (6:40 a.m.); Alarm activated at 765 N. Clayton Ave. (8:58 p.m.).

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 - River stage - 6:53 feet (7:01 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1244 Martin Luther King Dr. (8:36 a.m.); Minor 2-vehicle wreck reported on Yelverton St. (9:07 a.m.); Civil disturbance (fighting) reported at 1320 Jones St. (11:01 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24 - River stage - 6:42 feet (6:25 a.m.); Alarm activated at 5515 County Rd. 410 (4:20 p.m.); Civil disturbance (fighting) reported at 1244 Martin Luther King Dr. (10:43 p.m.).

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25 - River stage - 6:39 feet (6:00 a.m.); Minor wreck reported at Mr. Henry's (6:30 a.m.); Minor wreck reported at the intersection of Hwy. 189 N. and the 203 Bypass (10:41 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a trailer fire at 911 Putnam St. (11:11 p.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to 609 Mullins Circle (6:35 p.m.).

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 - River stage - 6:35 feet (7:51 a.m.); Loud music reported on Putnam St. (12:03 p.m.); Loud music reported on Washington Ave. (12:40 p.m.).

ATTEMPTED breaking and entering (in progress) reported at 850 Cedar Lane Dr. (11:47 p.m.).

"As chair of the new Strategic Forces subcommittee," Everett commented, "I'll oversee our holistic missile defense and military space programs as well as our military's ability to launch strikes out of our country and respond to threats. This subcommittee will be responsible for shepherding a \$45 billion budget for research, development, and procurement annually."

"America's reliance on high tech defensive weapons is increasing and Southeast Alabama is already contributing through the

Theatre High Altitude Air Defense program (THAAD)," Everett said. "Lockheed Martin in Pike County is preparing to begin production of this vital anti-missile defense system in the coming year."

"My subcommittee will have jurisdiction over the THAAD anti-missile system as well as the Army's missile defense component at Huntsville," Everett added. "The chairmanship should be beneficial for our state."

Everett is the sixth senior member of the House Armed Services Committee in the 108th Congress, an important benefit to Southeast Alabama which is home to Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base in Montgomery and the U.S. Army Aviation Center at Fort Rucker are vital to our national defense and our local economy," Everett said. "As subcommittee chairman, I will have a greater voice to make sure these bases remain integrated in our national defense structure, particularly with another base closure round planned for 2005."

You see, Harry served in the Pacific Theater during WWII. He was an average American serving his country, fighting those who threatened to destroy our great nation. While growing up, his daughter remembered, that he talked about his service in the Army and a combat medal he was designated to receive. For one reason or another his medal ceremony never took place, and Harry never received his medal.

A hero to his daughter, with or without a medal, about a month prior to his birthday, she contacted the appropriate military agency to find a record of her father's military service and whether there was a record of any combat awards. Her answer came. He had earned the Bronze Star in a heroic action, but the commendation was never awarded and Harry never received his

CCC (Continued from Page One)

county's employees as he announced that the State of Alabama recently rated Coffee County as second in the state in regards to its roads. He said this rating came after the state graded the roads within the county, which is done every year.

In other business, the commission...
*Awarded the bid for the lawn care of the county courthouses in Elba and Enterprise to Fay's Nursery of Elba at \$4,000 annually for the Enterprise Courthouse and \$2,700 annually for the Elba Courthouse. This motion was approved providing the specifications are met by the contractor.

*Approved a resolution for the reclassification of several county roads with the federal highway department. The roads involved in this reclassification included: County roads 337, 353, 368 and 665.

*Approved a resolution to begin the paperwork for the initialization of the repaving work on County Rds. 117 and 603.

*Commissioner Kayo Lewis took a moment to address the problems the county has been experiencing at the Coffee County Jail, and he said he has been assured that these problems are no worse than those experienced by other counties. He added that Coffee County's problems are generally not as bad as some of the problems other counties face on a daily basis.

CITY (Continued from Page One)

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Grantham told council members there are now three applications for liquor licenses. Two are currently being advertised and the hearings will be held on February 10th. The hearing on the third application is set to be held on February 24th.

The street resurfacing project is moving forward with the equipment presently working in Kennedy Estates, according to Grantham. The levee rehab project is moving forward as well and is going real well, the clerk told council members.

Council members reported hearing positive reports on the upkeep of Evergreen Cemetery since that work was taken over by the Elba Recreation Department. "Better than it has looked in a long time," had been heard by more than one city official.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Written for the Miami Herald by the brother of Janice Bell

Dear Editor,
Today I attended the funeral of a close friend's father. All funerals are sad but this one has a wonderful story attached to it that I would like to share with your readers.

Harry Lubliner, a resident of Delray Beach, was 84 years old when he died. Several years ago his daughter wanted to give him a birthday party before he became too infirm to enjoy the festivities of his special day. She planned a party at a local condo hall and invited all those that would bring joy to her father.

There was a special gift she wanted to give her dad. It was something he had mentioned many times when she was a young girl growing up. It was something that would mean more to him than most any other tangible gift, and it could not be bought anywhere.

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FLEETIE BLAIR

Mrs. Fleetie Blair, age 93, of 138 Stroud Ave., Elba, Ala., died Jan. 23, 2003 at Gadden Nursing Home in Quincy, Fla.

Funeral services were held Jan. 25, 2003 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Milford Johnson officiating. Burial followed in Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, Elba.

Mrs. Blair was preceded in death by her husband, Haston Blair, and a daughter, Flay Blair. Survivors include four sons and daughters-in-law, James and Linda Blair, Elba; John D. and Terri Blair, Huntsville, Ala.; J. P. and Edna Blair, New Brockton, Bill and Virginia Blair, Havana, Fla.; one daughter, Willie Mae Blocker, Elba; 11 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Andrew C. Weaver, Mr. Andrew Cecil "Sam" Weaver, age 81, of Killen, Texas, died Jan. 11, 2003. He was born Oct. 24, 1921 in Hilton, Ga. and was raised and educated in New Brockton, Ala.

A 30-year veteran of the U.S. Army, he served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War and retired as a command sergeant major in 1973. During his military career, he was awarded numerous medals.

Weaver also served as a member of Masonic Lodge 694 of New Brockton where he was awarded a 50-year pin, and he was a member of the Retired Sergeants Major Association.

Funeral services were held Jan. 15, 2003 from the Chapel of Crawford-Bowers Funeral Home in Killen, Texas with the Rev. Jack Housh officiating. Burial with military honors followed at Killen City Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife: Miyoko "Mickey" Weaver, Killen, Texas; two sons: Michael Weaver, Santa Barbara,

Obituaries

Calif., Andrew Weaver, Houston, Texas; a daughter, Susan Wheeler, Houston, Texas; a sister, Mable Chisby, Hayes, Va.; and four grandchildren. Memorials may be made to Skyline Baptist Church, 906 Trimmer Rd., Killen, TX 76541.

L.F. CAPPS
L.F. "Boe" Capps, age 82, of Elba, died Jan. 27, 2003, at Elba General Hospital.

Funeral services were held Jan. 29, 2003, at 11 a.m. at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, with Dr. Bill Warren officiating. Burial was in Danley Crossroads Cemetery, with

Hayes Funeral Home directing. Survivors include his wife: Hazel King Capps, Elba; one son: Mike Capps (Brenda), Elba; grandson: Colby Capps, Elba; brother: Donald Capps, Phenix City; three sisters: Madrie Ricks, Opp; Cassie Jo Whitmore, Lafayette, Ala.; and Kate Gresham, Jacksonville, Fla.

Pre-need funeral planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home. For details Call 897-2225

Note of Thanks
The family of Fleetie Blair would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, calls, food, and flowers received during the loss of our Mother, Grandmother, and Great Grandmother. Each gesture of kindness and concern was sincerely appreciated. God bless each one of you and continue to keep us in your prayers.

THE FAMILY OF FLEETIE BLAIR

In Memory of Jerry B. Chandler
May 30, 1943 - Feb. 7, 2000

It has been three years since we saw your smiling face, we enjoyed your warm caring ways. But you have run the race and are in heaven for the rest of your days. We Miss You! Your family, Patrice, Lorie, Tonya and Keith

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Weddings and More Inventory Reduction Sale All Floral Arrangements & Accessories Sale Begins Jan. 31st Monday-Saturday • 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 2748 Hickman Ave., Elba • 897-5033 (8th House on Right Past School Entrance - Look for Sign) *Specialty Cakes • Wedding Consultant • Wilson Dealer

NOTE OF THANKS There are no words to express our thanks to all those who have helped during this time - Five Star, Zion Chapel, Hamilton Crossroads fire departments and all those who gave so generously. We thank you all from our hearts for your prayers and encouraging words. Lon and Dianne Jones

The Elba Clipper USPS 171-080 is published every Thursday by The Elba Clipper, 417 W. Buford St., Elba, Alabama 36323 Publication Postage paid at Elba, Alabama 36323 Postmaster: Send Address Changes to The Elba Clipper, P.O. Box 475, Elba, AL 36323-0475 Copyright - All Rights Reserved TELEPHONE (334) 897-2823 or fax (334) 897-3434 Toll Free 1-888-216-8050 • e-mail clipper@alaweb.com John Ferrin Cox - PUBLISHER Linda M. Hodge - EDITOR Ricky Mulazir - SPORTS Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER SUBSCRIPTION RATES Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$17 per year 6 Months - \$9, including city & state tax Alabama Counties - \$19 per year - including tax 6 months - \$10 Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

A.M.E. Churches of S. AL Ninth District to hold gala banquet

The A.M.E. Churches of the South Alabama Conference, Ninth Episcopal District, will host a gala banquet on Saturday, February 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn West in Dothan. Donations of \$50.00 per ticket will be accepted, with proceeds going toward the construction of an A.M.E. Center to be used for church and community activities. Checks made payable to the South Alabama Conference Lay Organization may be mailed to Loretha Reeves, Lay Organization Treasurer, 417 Mallon St., Dothan, AL 36303. Attire for the banquet is formal or semi-formal. Tickets are available from Franklin Simmons (334-393-3827), Loretha Reeves (334-793-5876), and Juanita Gibson (334-566-4325). For more information, contact Ms. Knight at 334-727-7059 or James Roberts at 334-792-8249. Please RSVP by Jan 17 by calling Knight. Donations toward this effort will be accepted at any time and may be mailed to Reeves at the address listed above.

Sandy Glass to be in concert at Klondyke GMC

Sandy Glass, from York, Penn., will make her Wings Area debut on Friday, February 7th, 7:00 p.m., at the Klondyke Gospel Music Center, located 1/2 way between Newton and Ozark, at 3885 Highway 123 South.

Taking oath of office on the bible

By Jan White, Andalusia

On Inauguration Day last Monday, our new governor and other state office holders took their oath of office on a special Bible.

The state archive has preserved it on permanent display as "The State Bible" inside a small, glass case for generations past, present and future to see.

Every Alabama governor since John A. Winston in 1853 has taken the oath of office on this brown leather hardcover book with gold edging. Though larger than a Birmingham phone book, the State Bible carries more weight figuratively than literally.

God's Holy Word, as the Bible is sometimes called, should be used for swearing in our leaders.

When you think about it, what other book compares to the

represented by the Bible?

It's a timeless book with eternal value, not found in a dictionary or encyclopedia. On its pages are words like the Ten Commandments, the foundation of our law and moral code, and other godly principles to live by.

There's history behind taking an oath of office on the Bible, according to the book, "A Guide to the Presidency." Our first president, George Washington, took his oath of office "with his left hand placed on the Bible and his right hand raised toward heaven."

"Although not required by the Constitution, the practice of taking oaths upon Bibles was deeply ingrained in English and American Colonial history," the book states. The tradition goes back for centuries when the kings and queens of Britain took their coronation oaths on the

Bible.

At George Washington's first inauguration, the Chief Justice of the New York state judiciary hurriedly found a Bible because someone forgot to bring one. Justice Robert R. Livingston, who administered the oath to Washington, "feared the oath would lack legitimacy without a Bible."

There is no definite record of a Bible being used again at a presidential swearing-in ceremony until James K. Polk's inauguration in 1845, although it is believed that Andrew Jackson used one in 1829 and again in 1833.

"Since James Buchanan has taken the oath of office on a Bible except for Theodore Roosevelt in 1901, when he was hastily sworn in after the assassination of William McKinley," accord-

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA

897-2006

Scripture: Proverbs 25:1-20. ***Thinking of you, praying for you: Mary Etta Russell, Murry Barnes, Rev. Joyce B. Johnson, Rev. Charles Lane, Leo Henderson, Mary Elizabeth Coon, Ella Mae Brooks, Versie Barnes, Tammy Tillis, Wallace and Mattie Belcher, Leonard McBride, Rose Russell and Maria Duncan.

January Birthdays: Dimetri Crittenden - January 26, Tia Kelley - January 27. ***The Mulberry Baptist District Laymen's Department will meet at the Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church 3731 Hwy. 125 Elba, Alabama on February 1, 2003 at 2:30 p.m. Rev. A.R. Williams, pastor. The purpose of this meeting is to prepare and compose the Program for the Laymen's Conference. This year's Conference will be held at the Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church on March 14, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. Pastor A.R. Williams and church family will host the conference. All pastors and Laymen of the Mulberry District are invited to attend this important meeting. For more information call (334)897-6778.

Today is a good day, be grateful!

Tia Sherrice Kelley

Tia Sherrice Kelley celebrated her eighth birthday January 27, 2003 with a party at Pizza Hut in Opp, Ala. Her brother, Malik, was her special guest. Tia is the daughter of Marcus Kelley and Sharon Wright of Elba. She is the granddaughter of Gladys Wright, Elba and Glen and Ernestine Kelley of New Brockton and Elba. She is the great granddaughter of Nunie Kelley, New Brockton and the late Buford Kelley, and Kary N. Horstead, Elba. Elia Lindsey Belcher, Elba and the late Grover Belcher, Sr.

Today is a good day, be grateful!

PASTOR'S CORNER

By Rev. W.K. Ellison
Harris Temple COGIC

A letter of Repentance.....

2 Chronicles 7:13-14

The Lord spoke to my heart and said, "Write a letter of repentance; send it out via email and ask everybody to forward it to others as well." After hearing His voice the second time, I immediately surrendered and said, "Yes, Lord."

Repentance is a turning away from sin, disobedience, or rebellion and a turning back to God. In a more general sense, repentance means a change of mind or a feeling of remorse or regret for past conduct. True repentance is a "godly sorrow" for sin, an act of turning around and going in the opposite direction. This type of repentance leads to a fundamental change in a person's relationship to God.

Satan's subtle influences are constantly upon us. He's tries to steal our relationship with God by redirecting our emotions, love and devotion from God to the cravings of our flesh and to do this he gradually shifts our focus to that of self-fulfillment. When we begin to walk in the flesh, we began to fulfill the desires of the flesh. But yet the craving, that only Jesus can satisfy, cries out for fulfillment.

We go to church on Sunday mornings for an emotional fix. Our spirits are lifted through praise and worship and the Word that comes forth. We are encouraged to go on just a little bit farther. On Monday morning, the emotional fix begins to wear off. We repeat the same process, have the same old feelings, travel the same distance (getting no where), with the same results. We go back on Sunday morning again for another emotional fix.

Many people are serving God with emotions only and not their heart. Yes, being emotional can be a result of feeling the presence of God's power upon our lives; but it should produce a change in our heart. If God's presence upon our emotions can transfer to our hearts, change will come. Proverbs 4:23 states, "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." We are the contents of our hearts!

Well, why is it sometimes difficult to transfer God's presence upon our emotions to our heart? I just stated, "We are the contents of our hearts." The heart can conceal our deepest thoughts, pleasures, desires, etc. that bring separation in our relationship with God. The contents of our hearts are sometimes things that we cherish, adore and maybe even worship. It brings us a sense of comfort, wholeness and completion. It enhances our total being. It gives us confidence in ourselves, builds our self-esteem and compliments our every fiber. BUT, BUT, BUT, it brings separation in our relationship with God. Even though it feels so good and so right, yet it is so bad and so wrong.

Have you ever noticed that when something feels so good and so right, but you know it's not, you can also feel the so bad and so wrong as well? These we try to ignore. When there is a purpose and a call on your life, so bad and so wrong seemingly screams louder and louder! Do you realize what has happened? You have allowed the wrong contents of your heart that feel so good and so right, but were so wrong and so bad, to replace what God wants to fulfill within you.

It's hard to release what you feel inside you: the happiness, the comfort, the pleasure, etc. once you have experienced it. It's what you have been searching for and you finally found it! BUT, BUT, BUT... NO MORE BUTS! God wants to be restored to that place in our hearts to fulfill His purpose and call for our lives. We need to turn away from it and turn back to God. It must loose its value. It must die!

God gives us grace to get out of things that emotionally trapped us. With grace comes a grace period. This grace period is the allotted time He knows it will take for us to release the wrong contents of our hearts. The important factor is to accept His grace and His grace period as well as all the warnings He sends before destruction.

God wants to love us in ways that no one can. We must condition our hearts for His love and fulfillment. Dear God, forgive me for substituting your love with things I allowed to bring me momentary fulfillment. God I acknowledge that it feels so good and so right, but I can't ignore the so bad and so wrong feelings either. Thank you for loving me even when I choose to love other things or people above you. Thank you for grace and your grace period to make the necessary corrections. I admit my strength is weak because the matter is so close to my heart. I choose to release my heart to you for your fulfillment that feel so right and so good and voids the so bad and so wrong. Thank you God for another chance. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Church Directory

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....6:30 p.m. BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Phillip Cope, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Darryl Caldwell, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:30 a.m. Wed. Bible Class.....6:30 p.m. BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH Tom Seay, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....6:30 p.m. BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH Robert Davis, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. CHRISTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH Rev. Martha Bester Sunday School.....9:00 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays.....9:00 a.m. 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays.....10:00 a.m. Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays.....9:00 a.m. CHURCH OF DEAR CHRIST E. H. Hill, Minister Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....12:00 noon 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sundays.....6:00 p.m. DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m. DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Disruptive Training.....5:30 p.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting, Wed.....7:30 p.m.	ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST Jimmy Simmons, Minister Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. ELBA CHURCH OF GOD Ron Stallard, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evangelistic Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. ELBA CHURCH OF GOD J. E. 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COMMUNITY NEWS

Kinston Athletic Club presents the 2002 Miss Christmas pageant winners



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 19-35 MONTHS...Emma Reid, Queen; Katelyn Johnson, First Alternate; Regan Witherington, Second Alternate.

The Kinston Miss Christmas pageants, sponsored by the Kinston Athletic Club, were held Dec. 7, 2002. There were 10 different age groups, and these pictures highlight the winner and two alternates for each age division.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 0-11 MONTHS...Jillian Jones, Queen; Baylie Perdue, First Alternate; Landra Free, Second Alternate.



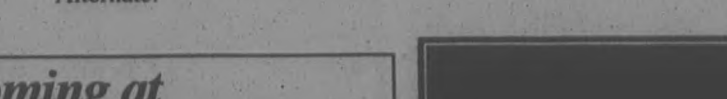
KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 3-4 YEARS...Linsey Smithart, Queen; Alison Bailey, First Alternate; Allie Williams, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 5-6 YEARS...Cassidy Johnson, Queen; Jordan McInnis, First Alternate; Callie Weeks, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 7-8 YEARS...Madison Weeks, Queen; Arissa Davis, First Alternate; Gabby Grace, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 9-10 YEARS...Jennifer Whatley, Queen; Katie Ward, First Alternate; Katelyn Hataway, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 15-16 YEARS...Beth Muldoon, Queen; Britni Cosby, First Alternate; Tiffany Wilson, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 17-18 YEARS...Kala Anderson, Queen; Stacy Reeves, First Alternate; Jessica Gent, Second Alternate.

19th Annual Homecoming at LOVE'S WAY CHURCH

Sunday • February 2, 2003
Morning Worship • 10:45 a.m. • John Lanier, Guest Speaker
Lunch in Fellowship Hall
Afternoon Service • 1:30 p.m. • The Dixie Melody Boys



John Lanier



Dixie Melody Boys

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(1/4 mile outside Boll Weevil Circle on Hwy 134 West next to Covington Electric)
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LIFESTYLES



David Boutwell

David Boutwell recently receives promotion

Raymond J. Harbert, Harbert Management Corporation chairman and chief executive officer, announces the promotion of David A. Boutwell to executive vice president and chief administrative officer.

Most recently, Mr. Boutwell served as vice president and controller for Harbert Management Corporation. The promotion reflects David's role as the firm's chief accounting officer combined with his responsibilities in risk management, due diligence, regulatory compliance, and the oversight of Harbert's communications and facilities management requirements.

Twentieth Century Study Club holds January meeting

The monthly meeting of the Twentieth Century Study Club was held January 9th at the Elba Public Library. Mrs. Carolyn Shively was hostess for the evening.

The program was given by the club president, Judy Eastburn. Mrs. Eastburn, leader of the TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Program in Enterprise informed the members of the opportunity to join a group of nutrition, weight, exercise and health conscious women.

Deadline
For Social
News
Is Monday!

Bradley's Florist & Gift Bridal Registry
Kelle Kendrick & David W. Masters Jr.
Anna Stokes and Greg Sullins
Sara Stice and Chuck Miller

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• Crystal stemware
• China • Flatware
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Clyde L. Sadle

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Area SAR & DAR to hold memorial marker dedication February 8

Dedication of a Veterans Administration memorial marker in the Covington County Carter Cemetery where Revolutionary War veteran William Carter is buried has been scheduled to start at 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 8.

Bruce H. Taylor, president, Wiregrass Chapter, Alabama Society, Sons of the American Revolution, said members of the local patriotic group, descendants of patriot Carter and area members of the Daughters of the American Revolution will conduct the event.

Mrs. Nancy Brunson, wife of



Nicholas Johnson celebrates fourth birthday January 15

Nicholas Johnson, son of Jeff and Vicki Johnson of Elba, celebrated his fourth birthday on January 15, with a Nascar Racing party. Nicholas is the grandson of Doil and Annie Mae Johnson, Billy and Janet Berry all of Elba and Virginia and Dan Simmons of Enterprise.

ESJC offers Introductory Sign Language Class

Enterprise State Junior College's offers Introductory Sign Language this spring. This workshop will teach you basic sign language skills which can be used to communicate with hearing impaired children and/or adults. American Sign Language (ASL) and deaf awareness topics will also be presented. A textbook costing approximately \$35.00 must be purchased at the first class. There is a \$40.00 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is February 13. The workshop will be held on Thursdays, February 20-April 17 (excluding March 27), 6:00-8:00 p.m. For more information, call 334-393-ESJC, ext. 234.

Marion B. Brunson Sr. and a great, great, great, great granddaughter of William Carter will be the major speaker.

Charles E. Dye, chapter sergeant-at-arms, has made arrangements for a reception to be held in the Cold Water Congregational Church hall after the ceremony. Dye has also prepared map directions to the site and signs to direct visitors to the cemetery.

For more information, telephone Taylor at 347-8736, Wallace at 347-0661 or Kemp at 308-2391.

Miss Jack Sweetheart Pageant planned for February 8

The "Miss Jack Sweetheart Pageant" will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2003, at 5:00 p.m. at the Zion Chapel High School Auditorium. There will be a total of 8 categories for ages 0-12th grade. The pageant is open to any girls in the surrounding area. A practice will be held Thursday, February 6, 2003 at the auditorium. The entry fee is \$20.00 and must be submitted at or before the practice. For more details call Jack in a Box Daycare at 897-1535.



Romulus Cirone achieves rank of Eagle Scout

Romulus Cirone, son of Emil and Cynthia Cirone and grandson of Bob and Syble Hahn, has reached the rank of Eagle Scout. R.J. is a member of St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Birmingham, where he is an altar server. As a sophomore at the Alabama School of Fine Arts, he is in the Creative Writing Department. This is R.J.'s tenth year of scouting; he began as a Tiger Scout in Pack 48 at St. John's Catholic Church in Enterprise, Ala. After earning the Arrow of Light Award as a Webelo, he joined Boy Scout Troop 357 at St. Francis Catholic Church. To date, R.J. has earned merit badges, and has had several leadership positions including Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, Scribe, Chaplain's Aide and currently the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. R.J. has also attended Allohakasin Challenge Leadership Training Camp as well as Northern Tier High Adventure Canoe Base. He is an Order of the Arrow member and has earned the Ad Altare Dei and the Parvuli Dei Religious Awards. As a Boy Scout, R.J. has attended over 69 campouts and trips. For his Eagle Scout Project, R.J. supervised the building of seven wooden trash-can containers at the Ruffner Mountain Nature Center. The project was completed in August 2002 and involved 112 hours of time donated by 17 individuals.

2003 "Valentine Sweetheart Pageant" planned for Saturday, February 15th

The 2003, "Valentine Sweetheart Pageant" will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2003, at 6:00 p.m. at the Elba High School in Elba, Ala. The Elba Masonic Lodge #170 is sponsoring the pageant, with all proceeds being used to finance numerous Lodge charities and projects. Age divisions will include 0-11 months, 1-2 years, 3-5 years, 6-8 years, 9-11 years, 12-14 years, and 15-18 years. Pageant age will be based upon the age of the contestant prior to February 1, 2003. For more information call Mrs. Starla Amison at (334)897-8301 after 4 p.m., Herb Winters (334)897-3095, Scott Cole (334)897-5898, or Ray Kyle (334)897-5851.



Anna Maddox included on Dean's List at Harding University

Anna C. Maddox, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Maddox, 930 Brookdale Ave., Elba, is among the 983 Harding University students included on the school's Dean's List for grades achieved during the fall semester at the university.

Maddox, a senior majoring in marketing, attended Elba High School before entering Harding.

Auburn awards degrees at Fall Commencement

Auburn University awarded approximately 1,437 academic degrees at its fall semester commencement ceremony Monday, Dec. 16, in Beard-Eaves-Memorial Coliseum.

AU awarded 1,144 bachelor's degrees, 239 master's degrees and 54 doctorates.

Since its founding as East Alabama Male College in 1856, AU has awarded more than 200,000 academic degrees.

Below is a list of area graduates.

COFFEE COUNTY Elba:
Bachelors — John B. Robertson
Jack: Bachelor's — Summer T. Harding — New Britain:
Bachelor's — James Bowden, Kellie Lavinia Edberg.

THE ELBA PUBLIC LIBRARY KICKED OFF ITS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM on Tuesday, January 21, 2003. Sherrie and Benny Davis shared their hobby of making folk instruments. He makes the instruments and she plays them. After demonstrating the instruments and talking about them, the children had an opportunity to play the dulcimers.

The After School Program will be held every Tuesday at 3:30-4:15. This was the day and time that parents chose from the survey taken with cooperation of Elba Elementary. Notes were sent home last week to announce the time selected. Children who come to the After School Program will participate in a variety of activities and book sharing.

Marcus Taylor studies World War II at Dana College during winter break

Marcus Taylor, a sophomore at Dana College, spent winter break studying World War II through the use of film as part of a special Internat. at Dana College. The class, taught by Associate Professor of History, Donald Warman, lets students get a more personal view of the military and political history of World War II through films and documentaries. Students use what they see to synthesize their own feelings of the impacts and events of the last world war. Taylor is the son of David and Glenda Taylor of Elba.

William J. Maddox included on Dean's List at Harding

William J. Maddox, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Maddox, 930 Brookdale Ave., Elba, is among the 983 Harding University students included on the school's Dean's List for grades achieved during the fall semester at the university.

Maddox, a senior majoring in computer science, attended Elba High School before entering Harding.



THE FORT RUCKER COMMUNITY CLUB AND MWR present Con Brio. The performance will be Thursday, January 30, 2003 at 7:30 PM in the Fort Rucker Community Club, Fort Rucker, Alabama. Founded in 2000, the 3-member chamber music group, comprised of violin, flute, and piano, performs throughout the state area of Georgia, Florida, and Alabama. In a program entitled Baroque and Blue Jeans, selections from the works of Mozart, Bach, Billy Joel, Handel, Rodriguez, Ibert, and Mendelssohn are among those to be performed.

For more information, call 334/598-2426. Tickets are \$10 at the door, \$8.00 in advance. Youth and children under 16 are free. Tickets are on sale at the Fort Rucker Community Club. A current drivers' license and proof of insurance are necessary to enter Ft. Rucker. Thursday is also Steak Night at the Community Club, so come and enjoy dinner as well.

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SPORTS

Views from....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

It is good for the girls and great for Dad's checkbook that Melissa and Melanie can share their clothes. However, lately it seems like the last one out of the house must be getting the better end of the deal since when they get home in the afternoon there is always fussing about what one or the other wore to school that day. One day last week one was fussing about the other wearing a certain jacket, while the one doing the fussing had on a pullover that was a Christmas present for the other. Maybe we should knock down a wall and have just one really big closet.

SPORTING AROUND THE AREA....

*** The Elba Tigers had to settle for second place in the area last week after being blown out 102-73 by Abbeville in the area finale for both teams. The Tigers had clinched second place earlier in the week with a big win over Straughn and had a chance to gain a share of the title with an upset win against the second-ranked Yellow Jackets, but for the second time this season the Jackets scored over 100 points against Elba, and there can be no doubt Abbeville is the class of the area. One bright spot in the loss to Abbeville was the fourth quarter scoring explosion by Kyle English. English, a senior, scored 15 points in the final four minutes of the game to give the Tiger fans something to cheer about, and continued to be one of the top three-point shooters in South Alabama as he drained three from behind the arc during the late scoring spree. Elba did post a 2-2 area mark and moved its record to 7-9 with last week's action, which isn't that bad when you think back and realize that the Tigers were 1-6 before the new year.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers pushed their record to 8-7 last week and also placed second in the area after falling to Abbeville. The Lady Tigers staged one of the wildest comebacks in recent memory when they outscored Straughn 16-2 over a three-minute span to pull out a wild 36-30 win that gave Elba second place in the area. The Elba girls trailed 28-20 with three minutes left, but Ayonna Proctor hit three straight three-pointers to give the Lady Tigers a 29-28 lead, and from there Elba pulled away for the win. The Lady Tigers live and die with the three-point shot, and while they were already on life support before the tip-off against Abbeville, they did little to pump any life into their upset effort as they connected on only 3 of 29 shots from behind the arc. Elba hit only 2 of 15 three-point tries in the first half and then connected on only 1 of 14 three-pointers in the second half, which won't lead to many wins no matter the competition.

*** The area tournaments are right around the corner and for some teams in the county the upcoming post-season party should provide added excitement. Down in Kingston, the Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs both have a chance to earn a share of the area title with wins this week against Houston County. The Bulldogs have caught fire late in the season and may very well have the best team in the area, while the Lady Bulldogs have proven they can win on any given night, and have a solid chance at making it to their second straight sub-region performance. It will take an upset or two for the New Brockton Gamecocks or Lady Gamecocks to make it out of the area; however, the Gamecocks proved in a win at Elba two weeks ago that they can win on the road, and the Lady Gamecocks are always a threat. The folks up at Zion Chapel are probably just glad the season is over.

*** Baseball and softball tryouts are underway all across the state, and here in Coffee County it looks like another exciting season for all the schools in both sports. Elba has its entire team back from last season in baseball and should be a contender, while the Lady Tigers should be a team to watch as they look to make a move in fast-pitch softball. Kingston, New Brockton and Zion Chapel all have winning programs and should be just as strong as ever, while over in softball Kingston and New Brockton should be strong, and Zion Chapel may be better than many think as they jump into the fast-pitch wars. Ready or not, the round ball is about to change its appearance.

*** I haven't had a chance to watch many college basketball games on TV this season, but did get to watch parts of Alabama's last three games and can't figure out how a team can go from number one to number none in such a short period of time. The Crimson Tide got off to a fast start and looked like a contender after four weeks of play, but now have been exposed as nothing more than a pretender and don't even look like a post-season team. Unless something happens in a hurry, the Alabama basketball team might be headed for its biggest disaster ever.

*** In closing... Andalusia High School is expected to name its new football coach this week, while Geneva and Luverne have yet to name a coach to take over their programs. It will be hard to replace Leavy Boutwell at Geneva and Butch Norman at Luverne, but I know both schools will move on and find someone that will keep the tradition alive. It has been a busy off-season for area high school football coaches, and I know that the fans are ready to see just who will lead their programs in years to come.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **Dennis Lawford DBA - Elba Texaco Food Mart, Inc.**, have made application to the City of Elba for a **Retail Beer and Retail Table Wine** off premises consumption at this location, **632 North Claxton Ave.**, Elba, Alabama.

A public hearing will be held by the City Council in their regular meeting in the Council Chamber in City Hall at **5:30 p.m.**, Monday, **February 10, 2003.**

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Clinch second place in area standings

Tigers stroll past Straughn 65-42

The Elba Tigers clinched second place in the area standings last Tuesday night with an impressive 65-42 win over the Straughn Tigers, in Elba.

The win improved Elba's record to 6-8, 2-1 in the area, while Straughn slipped to 9-12, 0-4 with the loss.

Kyle English drilled an early three-pointer to help the Tigers jump out to a 5-0 lead, only to see Straughn stage a rally and catch the Tigers at 5-5 with 5:03 remaining in the opening quarter. English scored seven straight points to spark a 9-0 Elba run midway through the stanza as the Tigers regained command at 14-5, and Marchello Reed took charge late inside to spark the Tigers to a 20-8 lead after one quarter of play.

Elba's LaRay Williams scored on a driving lay-up early in the second quarter as the Tigers' lead grew to 24-11. However, the pace slowed on both ends of the court late in the half, and even though Elba managed to add only four points from the free-throw line over the final four minutes of the stanza, the Tigers remained in command and carried a 29-17 lead in at intermission.

Straughn cut the Elba lead to 29-20 early in the third quarter on a long three-pointer, but the Tigers quickly answered and led by the play of Marcus Henderson and Mason Gulley. Elba went on a 10-2 run to take a 39-22 advantage with 5:04 left in the quarter. The Tigers led grew to 43-24 with 3:30 remaining on a basket by Brandy Kelley; however, the Tigers failed to score again in the stanza, as Straughn rallied once

again and cut the Elba lead to 43-28.

Elba saw its lead shrink to 43-30 early in the fourth quarter as Straughn continued its comeback attempt, but the Tigers again had the answer for the Straughn rally and sparked by the play of Marcus Henderson. Elba outscored Straughn 8-2 over the next two minutes to regain command at 51-32 with 5:31 left on the clock. Straughn got as close as fifteen with 2:52 remaining, but Elba was in complete command and pulled away late to blow the game open and claim the big 65-42 win.

Kyle English scored 18 points to lead Elba, while Marchello Reed added 14 and Marcus Henderson scored 10. Andrew Hancock scored 9 points to lead Straughn.

E 20 9 14 22 - 65
S 8 9 11 14 - 42

Elba (65): English 18, Kelley 8, Gulley 4, Reed 14, Williams 9, Henderson 10, Rogers 2.
Straughn (42): Hunt 4, Bracewell 8, Hancock 9, Freney 5, Driver 6, Hendrix 3, Fowler 3, Hattaway 4.

[B GAME]

The Elba B team Tigers continued their recent struggles with a 33-25 loss to the Straughn Tigers. Stefan Burks and Ron Hill both scored 7 points to lead Elba, while Sexton scored 7 points for Straughn.

Straughn (33): Cotton 6, Hammett 2, Bass 6, Armstrong 6, Rabren 6, Sexton 7.
Elba (25): Skinner 2, Carr 3, Burks 7, Johnson 6, Hill 7.

'Jackets sting Tigers 102-73

The Elba Tiger hosted the second-ranked Abbeville Yellow Jackets Friday night in their final area encounter of the season and saw their area title hopes dashed as the high-powered Jackets ran away early and coasted to a 102-73 win.

The loss dropped Elba's record to 6-9, while Abbeville improved its record to 22-2 with the win.

Abbeville jumped on the Tigers from the opening tip and opened up a quick 14-0 lead. Elba's Brandon Kelley got the Tigers on the scoreboard with 5:20 left in the opening stanza on a three-pointer, but the Jackets never slowed down and reeled off 10 unanswered points to grab a 24-3 lead with 3:14 still remaining in the stanza. Abbeville's lead grew to 30-5 with 2:07 left on the clock, and even though Elba staged a late rally and outscored Abbeville 11-4 for the remainder of the quarter, the Tigers trailed 34-16 heading into the second quarter.

Elba continued its comeback in the second quarter, led behind the inside scoring of Marchello Reed and by hitting seven of eight free-throws, the Tigers managed to creep back into the game by pulling within 46-33 with 3:01 left in the half. Abbeville answered with a 7-0 run to stretch its lead back up to 53-33 with 1:58 left, and at intermission the Jackets went in with a big 57-36 lead.

The fast-paced offensive shootout slowed early in the third quarter as both teams managed to score only seven points over the first four minutes of the stanza. Abbeville caught its wind midway through the quarter; however, and closed out the quarter with a 14-3 run to blow the game open as Abbeville's lead went to 78-48 with only one quarter left.

Boys & girls baseball and softball registration to begin next week at Zion Chapel Elementary School

The Zion Chapel Youth Sports organization will hold registration for baseball and softball on Feb. 6-8 for boys and girls ages 4-12. On Feb. 6 and Feb. 7, registration will be held from 5:00 until 7:00 PM at the Zion Chapel Elementary School, while on Feb. 8 registration will be held from 9:00 until 11:00 AM at the Z.C. Express.

The entry fee is \$25 per person and the deadline to register is Feb. 28. All registration forms received after the deadline will be accepted; however, placement on a team will not be guaranteed. For more information, call Keith Ward at 897-6457, Jamie Hurd at 897-3614, Jennifer Mauldin at 735-9026 or Marsha Jordan at 897-3073.



Elba's Marchello Reed (22) pulls down a rebound as teammate Mason Gulley closes in to help. The Tigers clinched the number two spot in the area last week with a big 65-42 win over Straughn.

High School
ROUNDBALL
ROUNDUP

Kinston Bulldogs zap Zion Chapel 61-42

The Kinston Bulldogs continued their recent winning ways last Tuesday night by posting a 61-42 win over the Zion Chapel Rebels. The Bulldogs, which connected on 23 of 41 free-throws, were led in scoring by Jeremy Driver with 20 points, and J.T. Wiggins added 16 and J.T. Wiggins scored 12. Joe Lightner scored 15 points to lead the Rebels.

Lady Bulldogs rap Z.C. Lady Rebels 61-17

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs made it look easy last Tuesday night with a 61-17 win over the Zion Chapel Lady Rebels, at Zion Chapel. Ramsi Smith scored 15 points and Elizabeth Farris added 12 to lead Kinston.

Kinston Bulldogs cage Purple Cats 60-55

The Kinston Bulldogs kept their area title hopes alive Friday night with a big 60-55 road win over the Arton Purple Cats. The Bulldogs, which connected on 23 of 41 free-throws, were led in scoring by Jeremy Driver with 20 points, while Lee Whigham added 16 and J.T. Wiggins scored 12. Joe Lightner scored 15 points to lead Arton.

Kinston Lady Bulldogs fall in overtime 54-45

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs were outscored 9-0 in overtime Friday night in a 54-45 loss to the Arton Lady Cats, in Arton. Ramsi Smith scored 13 points to lead Kinston, while Samantha Wambles and Elizabeth Farris both added 12 points. Sherry Lynn Liprott scored 20 points to lead Arton.

New Brockton falls to Wicksburg 55-39

The New Brockton Gamecocks hosted the Wicksburg Panthers in a Saturday night area match-up and came out on the short end of a 55-39 decision. Rishawn Foster scored 12 points to lead the Gamecocks, while Ben Booth scored 13 points to lead the Panther.

AREA TOURNAMENTS BEGIN NEXT WEEK...CHECK YOUR TEAM'S TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE RIGHT HERE IN THE ELBA CLIPPER SPORTS™

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SPORTS

Fall to Abbeville in area finale

Lady Tigers rally late to stop Straughn 36-30

The Elba Lady Tigers hit the court twice last week and claimed one win and one loss to move their record to 8-7 for the season.

Following are highlights of both games:

ELBA 36

STRAUGHN 30

The Elba Lady Tigers outscored Straughn 16-2 over the final three minutes of the game to claim a wild 36-30 win, last Tuesday night in Elba.

The Lady Tigers got off to a slow start and trailed 10-5 after one quarter of play, and even though LaFondra Thigpen drilled a three-pointer in the second stanza, Elba hit only 2 of 5 free-throws in the quarter and went in at the half trailing 16-12. Straughn increased its lead to 25-19 in the third quarter and

Elba's Ayonna Proctor drilled three straight three-pointers to spark the Lady Tigers to a 29-28 lead, and Elba connected on 8 of 13 free-throws in the stanza as the Lady Tigers posted the wild 36-30 win.

LaFondra Thigpen scored 14 points and Ayonna Proctor added 9 points to lead Elba, while Jennifer Nall led Straughn with 14 points.

Elba (36): Proctor 9, Ware 4, Lawford 1, Reynolds 1, Tyson 1, L. Thigpen 14, T. Thigpen 6.
Straughn (30): Turner 8, Nall 14, Parker 8.

ABBEVILLE 55

ELBA 31

The Elba Lady Tigers hosted the Abbeville Lady Yellow Jackets on Friday night with the area title on the line and found the going a little too tough as the third-ranked Lady Jackets rolled

to a 55-31 win.

Elba owned a 5-4 lead with 4:27 left in the opening stanza after a three-pointer by Tunisia Thigpen. However, the Lady Tigers failed to score for the remainder of the quarter and by the end of the stanza Abbeville had taken command by opening up a 16-5 advantage.

Thigpen scored 5 points in the second quarter and nailed her second three-pointer of the half, but the Lady Tigers couldn't handle the Abbeville press and suffered countless turnovers that the Lady Jackets converted into easy baskets as Abbeville went in at the half with a 30-12 lead.

Things went from bad to worse for the Lady Tigers in the third quarter as Elba went almost seven minutes without scoring. The long scoring drought enabled Abbeville to open up a big 43-12 advantage.

and even though Elba's LaFondra Thigpen nailed a three-pointer at the buzzer, it made little difference as Abbeville carried a 45-17 lead into the final stanza. With the outcome long since decided both teams substituted freely throughout the fourth quarter, and the Lady Tigers managed to cut into the large deficit and at the final horn took the loss 55-31.

Ayonna Proctor scored 9 points to lead Elba, while Tunisia Thigpen added 8 and LaFondra Thigpen scored 7. Robin Porter scored 13 points to lead Abbeville.

A'ville (55): Capps 2, Spann 4, Craddock 5, Baker 9, Porter 13, Johnson 5, Wells 4, Flucker 10, A. Spann 2, Brown 1.

Elba (31): Proctor 9, Reynolds 1, L. Thigpen 7, Tyson 6, T. Thigpen 8.



Elba Lady Tiger Whitney Lawford watches action across the court during a recent win. The Lady Tigers wrapped up second place in the area standings last week with a wild 36-30 come from behind win over Straughn.



Michael Waddail killed this nine-point buck while hunting the first week of December. The buck tipped the scales at 210 pounds.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **David Dean, DBA Friendship Package Store #2** have made application to the City of Elba for a **Lounge Retail Liquor-Class II Package** off premises consumption at this location, **996 Hwy. 203**, Elba, Alabama.

A public hearing will be held by the City Council in their regular meeting in the Council Chamber in City Hall at **5:30 p.m.**, Monday, **February 10, 2003.**

NOTICE

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CITY OF ELBA

WAYNE GRANTHAM

CITY CLERK

Youth Basketball
SCHEDULE

Thursday, Jan. 30

In Elba,

5:30 - Hornets vs. Rockets

6:30 - Nuggets vs. Mavericks

In Opp,

5:30 - Nets vs. Opp

6:30 - Magic vs. Opp

Monday, Feb. 3

5:30 - Magic vs. Lakers

6:30 - Starzz vs. Mercury

Tuesday, Feb. 4

6:30 - Hornets vs. Mavericks

6:30 - Comets vs. Rockets

Thursday, Feb. 6

5:30 - Nets vs. Opp

6:30 - Magic vs. Opp

HIGH SCHOOL

BASKETBALL SCHEDULES

THURSDAY, JAN. 30

New Brockton at Houston Academy (4:30)

JV-VG-VB

FRIDAY, JAN. 31

Opp at Elba (4:30) JV-VG-VB

New Brockton at Kingston (4:30) JV-VG-VB

MONDAY, FEB. 3

Elba at Luverne (4:30) JV-VB-VG

Kinston at Geneva County (5:00) VG-VB



COMING

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"Softball"

preseason

previews

command and then held on to claim the win. Scoring for the Rockets were Connor Kelley 8, Jaron Kelley 2 and Chace Sauls 1. Scoring for the Nuggets were Brandon Carpenter 4, Harry Griffin 2, Martin Henderson 2 and Austin Johnson 1.

*** Nets 32 Heat 16 - The Nets led all the way to defeat the Heat 32-16, in Boys 10 and Under action. The Nets led only 9-5 at the half, but poured in 17 fourth quarter points to pull away and claim the win. Scoring for the Nets were Chance Goosby 13, Kareem Silar 13 and Jantzen Flowers 6. Scoring for the Heat were Kevin Allen 12 and Steven Bryant 4.

*** Mercury 15 Starzz 11 - The Mercury pulled ahead early and held on to down the Starzz 15-11, in Girls 12 and Under action. The Mercury owned a 10-6 lead the half and held on late to lead the win. Scoring for the Mercury were Jeanita Banks 7, KaShunda Hardwick 4 and Ashley Cooks 4. Scoring for the Starzz were Brandy Caldwell 9 and Kynu Coleman 2.

*** Comets 27 Rockets 10 - The Comets led all the way to down the Rockets 27-10, in Girls 8 and Under action. The Comets jumped out to an 11-4

halfway bulge and rolled to the win. Scoring for the Comets were Kei-Auna Edwards 14, Jessica Whitfield 8 and Jacquetta Whitfield 5. Macie Sanders scored 10 points for the Rockets.

*** Pleasant Home 64 Elba 36 - Elba fell behind early and never caught up in a 64-36 loss to Pleasant Home, in Boys 14 and Under action. Elba trailed 13-2 after one quarter and never challenged in the loss. Scoring for Elba were Jordan Flowers 17, Juan Starks 6, John Jared 5, Chase Graham 4, Brandon Harbuck 2 and Travis Simmons 2. Scoring for Pleasant Home were King 23, Powell 16, Douglas 12, Ballard 6, Bush 3, Sanders 2 and Bass 2.

*** Elba 60 Andalusia 54 - Elba staged a furious fourth quarter rally to defeat Andalusia 60-54, in Boys 14 and Under action. Elba trailed 41-36 entering the fourth quarter, but poured in 23 points in the final stanza to pull out the wild win. Scoring for Elba were Juan Starks 21, Jordan Flowers 17, Chase Graham 14, Chafin Johnson 7 and John Jared 1. Scoring for Andalusia were Ball 29, Bass 7, S. Bass 6, Atkins 6, Jones 4 and Neal 2.

Softball tourney set for Daleville

The A.M. Windham Elementary School PTO, of Daleville, will host a Men's Class C softball tournament on Saturday, March 8, at Culppeper Park. The entry fee is \$100 and

Alabama-Mississippi All-Star prep

cage classic moved to Pelham

The Alabama-Mississippi All-Star Basketball Game has found a home at the Pelham Civic Complex for the next three years, according to Dan Washburn, Executive Director of the Alabama High School Athletic Association.

The AHSAA and the Mississippi Association of Coaches, game co-sponsors since the inception in 1991, have worked out a three-year agreement with the City of Pelham and the Shelby County Commission to stage the all-star contest in March each year, beginning March 22 of 2003.

The previous 12 games in the series have been played the first week in June on a rotating basis between Florence and a site in Mississippi. After the 2002 game, the AHSAA Central Board of Control voted to discontinue the game until a new host site/sponsor showed an interest.

Mayor Bobby Hayes of Pelham; Alex Dudchock, Shelby County manager; and Chris Hartsley, Shelby County event planner, submitted the three-year proposal to host the game. This same group also hosts the AHSAA state volleyball and wrestling tournaments. Lynne Petro will be the event coordinator.

"We are pleased to be able to continue both the boys and girls games with the State of Mississippi," said Washburn.

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Enterprise Shopping Center I - BIKER BOYZ (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 No Passes - No Wed. Night Discounts II - KANGAROO JACK (PG) M-F 7 ONLY - S&S 2 & 7 III - NATIONAL SECURITY (PG-13) M-F 7 ONLY - S&S 2 & 7 IV - WESTGATE CENTER College Cinema - College Plaza I - THE RECRUIT M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 II - DARKNESS FALLS (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 III - JUST MARRIED (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 No Passes - No Wed. Night Discounts College Cinema - College Plaza I - THE RECRUIT M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 II - DARKNESS FALLS (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 III - JUST MARRIED (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 No Passes - No Wed. Night Discounts College Cinema - College Plaza I - THE RECRUIT M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 II - DARKNESS FALLS (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 III - JUST MARRIED (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 No Passes - No Wed. 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